



ISD/ESA School Improvement Facilitators:

For MI Excel Priority Schools, 2012-13 is the year of change. MI Excel Priority Schools have found themselves with new rules for identification; new requirements outlined in the Flexibility Waiver, new support partners in the form of MSU Specialists, and under new monitoring by the School Reform Office. These changes have left ISD/ESA School Improvement Facilitators reeling and trying to clarify their role with MI Excel Priority Schools at the same time they are providing much needed support. After last week's School Improvement Facilitator trainings in Lansing and Wayne, it was made very clear to me that site visits for Year One MI Excel Priority Schools should be tailored to fit the needs of the individual ISD/ESA. I realize that School Improvement Facilitators might need varying levels of support and guidance as Year One schools begin planning for Implementation of their Transformation or Turnaround Plans for next fall. ISD/ESAs supporting Year Two and/or Year Three Priority Schools may have different needs. With these revelations in mind, I have come up with a variety of options for site visits this spring.

I am planning to start these visits in March and run through June 2013. Please take some time to think carefully about the type of visit you would like to schedule based on what you feel would be most beneficial to you and the MI Excel Priority Schools you support.

**Option 1: District Role in Supporting MI Excel Priority Schools**

SST Coordinator would attend a meeting arranged by the local ISD/ESA for MI Excel Priority School's District Personnel. This meeting would outline MDE's expectations for the role of District Central Office Personnel in supporting Priority Schools. (Karen Ruple might attend this meeting as scheduling permits)

**Option 2: Instructional Learning Cycle Support**

SST Coordinator would attend a meeting arranged by the local ISD/ESA for MI Excel Priority school leadership teams and School Support Teams to provide learning around the Instructional Learning Cycle Process, critical components of an ILC, and plans for piloting an ILC. (An additional MDE representative might join this meeting as scheduling permits)

**Option 3: Planning for Implementation of Instructional Components of R/R Plan**

SST Coordinator would attend a meeting arranged by the local ISD/ESA for MI Excel Priority school leadership teams and School Support teams to provide support for planning for the implementation of the instructional components of the Reform and Redesign Plan. (Beth Steenwyk might join this meeting as scheduling permits)

**Option 4: Individually Developed Support**

Discuss with the SST Coordinator the type of support that would be most beneficial to the School Improvement Facilitator(s) and the MI Excel Priority Schools within the ISD/ESA and plan together the content for this visit. (An additional MDE representative may join this meeting as scheduling permits)

We currently have 15 ISD/ESAs that have MI Excel schools receiving support from ISD/ESA School Improvement Facilitators. **Depending on the option chosen, you may decide to hold a meeting with a group of schools from your ISD/ESA or hold a meeting for an individual school. I plan on attending at LEAST one meeting for each ISD/ESA that supports Priority Schools.**

I am asking that each ISDs/ESAs determine which option or options best fit the needs of the school(s) you support. Once an option has been chosen, the SST Coordinator will work with the ISD/ESA School Improvement Facilitator(s) to schedule and arrange the visit.

Please contact me as soon as possible to schedule your visit based on the needs of the school(s) you support.

Thanks

Beth

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